ASPULL

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1909.

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ASPULL,

Nr. Wigan,

February 20th, 1910.

To the Chairman and Members of the Aspull District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1909, together with the various lists and tables required by the Local Government Board and County Council.

During the past year six more deaths were registered than in the previous year, causing a slight increase in the death rate of .7 per 1000. There has been an increase of 4 births more than in the previous year.

Deaths registered during the year 152. Males 83, Females 69

Births ,, ,, 302. Males 152, Females 150

Death rate for the year, 18.13 per 1,000; last year 17.5.

,, past 10 years, 18.6.

Birth rate for the year, 36.03; last year 35.5.

,, past 10 years, 35.1.

Deaths under 1 year, 49; last year 41.

Infantile Mortality rate, 162.2 per 1000 Births.

,, ,, for past 10 years, 164.7.

It will be noticed that whilst the death rate is slightly greater than that of last year, it is a fraction less than the average of the past 10 years.

I would like to draw your attention to the fact that although the Infantile rate is also lower than the average for the past 10 years, there is an increase of 8 deaths occurring under the age of one year over last year.

On referring to the tables for 1908 we find that 13 deaths were attributed to Whooping Cough and its complications, 5 being under 12 months old, whereas in the past year no deaths have been ascribed to this disease.

We have evidently to look for some other cause for the increase in the Infantile rate; it is not difficult to find, no less than 15 deaths were registered under 1 year of age, certified as due to Diarrhœa, Enteritis and Gastritis.

The question of Infant feeding is one of the greatest importance, and mothers as a rule, are most anxious to do their utmost for their children.

I am confident that any advice given through your Council would be readily welcomed by them. I would therefore suggest that your Council should distribute in every house some simple literature having this object. I enclose a pamphlet and a card for your consideration, and after you have approved of the suggestion, I will either advise the circulation of the card or some such similar one after further consideration.

The diseases most prevalent during the year were: Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diarrhœa and Enteric Fever.

In April an outbreak of Measles occurred in the New Springs district, and it was thought desirable to close St. John's Schools. This was carried into effect on April 20th, for a period of 4 weeks. The Holy Family Schools were closed on May 11th for 4 weeks owing to a similar outbreak amongst the children attending these schools.

The Wesleyan Schools were closed for 3 weeks, commencing June 14th, owing to the prevalence of Measles in its locality, and traceable to scholars attending the schools.

Later in the year the same disease made its appearance in Lower Bolton Road, and was evidently chiefly amongst children attending the St. Elizabeth's Schools. These schools were closed on September 21st for 3 weeks. The closing of the schools seemed to have a wholesome effect in checking the disease, in each instance the cases became less numerous, and eventually subsided.

A large number came under observation, but only 3 deaths were registered as due to this disease, and Bronchitis and Pneumonia which are generally the chief factors in causing a fatal termination.

Scarlet Fever was responsible for 3 deaths, all between the ages of 1 and 5 years. 38 cases were reported, and these were scattered in all parts of the township. It will be seen by referring to Table II. that the disease was most prevalent in the months of April, May, June, and November.

6 cases of Diphtheria and 9 of Membranous Croup were reported, resulting in 3 deaths. These diseases were most prevalent in the first and last quarters of the year, none being reported from May to August. They were evidently sporadic cases, and could not be traced to any particular cause.

13 cases of Enteric Fever were reported, but no deaths. They occurred as follows:

4 in Leeds Street.
1 ,, Ashworth Street.
1 ,, Croston's Yard.
2 ,, Liverpool Street.
2 ,, Cale Lane.
1 ,, Longfield Street.
1 ,, Duke's Row.
1 ,, Fairbrother's Yard.

It will be seen by Table II. that the greater number occurred in September and October.

It is remarkable that there were no fatilities from this disease. In each instance the premises received careful attention at the hands of the Sanitary Officer.

A few cases of Erysipelas were also notified, bringing the total of notifiable infections diseases to 76.

The Zymotic death rate of 2.505 is slightly less than in the last year, and had it not been for the increase of those due to Diarrhœa, would have been most favourable. Vide Table IV.

The Workshops have been inspected, and are on the whole remarkably clean and well kept.

The Sanitary arrangements of the weaving sheds at Dicconson Mill, to which I have on several occasions drawn your attention, are now nearing completion, and when finished, will, I have no doubt, prove satisfactory.

The Dairies and Cowsheds have been inspected, and are undergoing some improvement, if slow. The dairy at Bark Hill Farm, which I had referred to on two previous occasions, has now been partly rebuilt and re-arranged, and is generally satisfactory.

It is separate from the house, and furnished with hot and cold water, and other accessories. I am pointing this case out to show that by a reasonable outlay (generally speaking) old premises may be placed on a much more hygienic footing than at present.

It must be kept in mind that it is of paramount importance that milk should be delivered at the homes of the purchaser with a minimum risk of contamination from any source, failing this the suggestions I have made on Infant Feeding will lose much of their value.

There is only one Slaughter-house in the township, which is a new erection, and is visited by the Sanitary Inspector at the times of slaughtering.

It has not been necessary to condemn any carcases. The Inspector does not possess a special certificate for meat inspection.

The roads of the township are continually improving but Mill Lane, which was under consideration when I made my last Annual Report, still remains the same.

The Water Supply is good and abundant.

Drainage good, and Sewage dealt with by the Wigan Authorities.

Periodical Inspections of the district have been made by myself and the Nuisance Inspector.

No offensive Trades have been carried on during the year, and it has not been necessary to condemn any articles of food exposed for sale.

Mr. Henry Gibson, the Sanitary Officer, reports as follows:

Defective Drains, Gullies, Privies, &c.	79;	abated 79
Overcrowded Houses	17;	abated 17

Houses Fumigated and cleaned down	29
Houses cleaned down and Whitewashed	20
Schools Fumigated and cleaned ...	4
Drains Tested	6

Total number of Closets in District ...	...	943
,, Fresh Water ,,		54
,, Waste ,,		15
,, Pail ,,		26
	Total	1038

I am Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

L. COOKE,

Medical Officer of Health.

COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

SUMMARY OF MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1909.

Urban District of Aspull.

Area in Statute Acres, 1905. Population (Census) 1901, 8380. Population (Estimated), 1909, 8380.

Name of Medical Officer of Health, L. Cooke. Salary, £35.

Births registered: Male, 152; Female, 150; Total 302.

Deaths registered (Nett deaths belonging to the district): Male, 83; Female, 69; Total 152.

Number of Illegitimate Births registered, 13. Deaths of Illegitimates under one year of age, Nil.

Birth Rate, 36.03. Death Rate, 18.13. Rate of Infant Deaths, under 1 year, to 1,000 Births, 162.2.

Death Rate from the † seven principal epidemic Diseases per 1,000 of population, 2.505.

Diseases prevalent? Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diarrhœa. Period? April, May, June.

What Action taken? —. Any Schools Closed? Yes. If so, for what disease? Measles.

What is the character of the Hospital Accommodation? For Small-pox, good. For other Infectious Diseases, good.

Is it Joint or otherwise? Joint; 2 guineas per week per patient; no retaining fee.

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† Small-pox, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Membranous Croup. Fever: Typhus, Enteric, and Continued, Measles, Whooping Cough, and Diarrhœa.

Number of Beds available for your District? For Small-pox — For other Infectious Diseases, 50.

Number of cases removed from your District? Scarlet Fever, 3; Enteric Fever, 3; Total 6.

Deaths in Hospital of patients from your District? From what causes? Nil.

How is disinfection carried out? Houses, Fumigation. Clothing, Bedding, &c., Taken to Wigan Sanatorium. Apparatus used — Where situated, Wigan.

Number of cases of Infectious Disease reported under the Notification Act? 76. Are any Diseases not specifically mentioned in the Act notifiable (for instance, Measles, Whooping Cough, Diarrhœa, Chicken Pox, &c.)? If so, what are they? No. Has any arrangement been made for the "voluntary" notification of Phthisis? No.

Is Diphtheritic Anti-Toxin supplied to Medical Practitioners free of charge? Yes.

From where is the Water Supply obtained? What is its condition?	Rivington Watershed, via Bolton. Good.
Is it subject to your inspection?	Yes.
Is Scavenging carried out satisfactorily?	Yes.
How performed:—By Sanitary Authority, Contract, or Occupiers of Houses?	By contract.
How is the refuse disposed of? Has a Destructor been provided?	Deposited on Farm land. No.

What is the character of Drainage and the form of Sewage Disposal?	Good. Taken by Wigan.
What is the condition of the Bakehouses?	Good.
,, Slaughter Houses?	Good. Has a Public Abattoir been provided? No.
,, Lodging Houses?	None.
What is the sanitary condition of the Schools?	Good.
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops—Are they periodically inspected?	Yes. What is their condition? Fairly good.
Have Regulations been made under the order of the L.G.B.?	Yes. Are they enforced? Yes.
Amount of air space in cubic feet required for each cow?	600.
No. of Cowkeepers?	21.
No. of Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers)?	None.
Department of Inspector of Nuisances	No. of Notices served? 79. Nuisances remedied? 79. No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result? None.
Closet accommodation of the District	No. of Privy Middens? 943. Pail Closets? 26. Fresh Water Closets? 54. Waste Water Closets? 15. No. of Privy Middens converted during 1909? To. W.C.'s, None. To Pails, &c., 1.
Has a Health Visitor been appointed?	No.
Notable sanitary improvements during 1909.	4 acres of Moorland drained.

TABLE I.

SHEWING BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR EACH WARD IN EACH MONTH OF 1909.

BIRTHS.

	North Ward			East Ward			New Springs Ward			Whole Township		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Jan.	6	3	9	7	2	9	6	2	8	19	7	26
Feb.	4	7	11	3	2	5	5	6	11	12	15	27
Mar.	3	3	6	4	7	11	1	5	6	8	15	23
April	6	2	8	1	3	4	8	9	17	15	14	29
May	2	8	10	3	4	7	2	8	10	7	20	27
June	5	2	7	...	3	3	6	4	10	11	9	20
July	3	3	6	3	2	5	9	5	14	15	10	25
Aug.	3	2	5	1	1	2	6	3	9	10	6	16
Sept.	3	6	9	5	4	9	7	5	12	15	15	30
Oct.	7	1	8	6	3	9	5	8	13	18	12	30
Nov.	1	3	4	4	4	8	6	2	8	11	9	20
Dec.	4	3	7	2	5	7	5	10	15	11	18	29
Totals	47	43	90	39	40	79	66	67	133	152	150	302

DEATHS.

	North Ward			East Ward			New Springs Ward			Whole Township			Beyond District
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	
Jan.	5	2	7	1	1	2	1	2	3	7	5	12	...
Feb.	...	...	...	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	4	...
Mar.	2	2	4	2	...	2	1	7	8	5	9	14	...
April	4	2	6	1	...	1	3	3	6	8	5	13	1
May	2	2	4	...	...	...	1	2	3	3	4	7	1
June	2	2	4	1	2	3	2	2	4	5	6	11	1
July	2	1	3	3	...	3	1	2	3	6	3	9	1
Aug.	2	...	2	1	...	1	1	1	2	4	1	5	...
Sept.	1	2	3	2	...	2	...	8	8	3	10	13	4
Oct.	3	3	6	2	1	3	7	4	11	12	8	20	1
Nov.	7	3	10	4	1	5	1	4	5	12	8	20	1
Dec.	2	3	5	1	1	2	5	1	6	8	5	13	1
Totals	32	22	54	19	7	26	24	37	61	75	66	141	11

Total for whole District 152

TABLE II.

SHEWING MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Erysipelas	Enteric Fever	Continued Fever	Puerperal Fever	Total
January	1	...	4	2	1	...	...	8
February	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
March	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	4
April	6	3	...	...	1	...	...	10
May	9	...	...	2	...	...	1	12
June	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
July	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	3
August	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	4
September	...	...	2	...	4	...	...	6
October	2	...	1	...	3	...	...	6
November	5	...	1	1	1	...	...	8
December	1	1	1	1	2	...	...	6
Total	38	6	9	7	13	...	3	76

TABLE III.

SHEWING DEATHS IN EACH MONTH FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Month	Smallpox	Cholera	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Erysipelas	Typhus Fever	Enteric Fever	Relapsing Fever	Continued Fever	Puerperal Fever	Measles	Chicken Pox	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Total
January ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
February	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
March.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
April	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
May	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
June	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	..	1
July	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
August ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
September	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
October ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
November	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
December	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Totals	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	2	8

TABLE IV.

SHOWING ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

	No. of Cases		Rate per 1000
Diphtheria	3	...	·358
Scarlet Fever ...	2	...	·238
Diarrhœa	13	...	1·551
Measles.....	3	...	·358
Totals	21	...	2·505

TABLE V.

SHOWING ZYMOTIC, TUBERCULAR, AND PULMONARY DEATH RATES.

	Disease	Rate per 1000 living	Rate per 1000 deaths
Zymotic.....	21	2·505	138·15
Tubercular ...	7	·835	46·05
Pulmonary ...	43	5·131	282·89
Total ...	71	8·471	467·09

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) - 1905.

Total population at all ages	8380	At Census of 1901.
Number of inhabited houses	1616	
Average number of persons per house	5	

I	II	III.
Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	Other institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.
Nil	Wigan Infirmary Wigan Sanatorium for Infectious Disease	Nil

Is the Union Workhouse within the District? No.

TABLE VI.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1909 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

DISTRICT OF ASPULL.

Year	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	Births		Total Deaths Registered in the District				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District	
				Under 1 year of age.		At all ages.						
		Number	Rate*	Number	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Number	Rate*				Number	Rate*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1899	9000	313	34·7	64	204·4	162	18·0	...	...	...	162	18·0
1900	,,	309	34·3	57	184·1	172	19·2	...	...	...	173	19·2
1901	8380	310	36·9	47	151·6	187	22·3	...	...	7	187	22·3
1902	,,	308	35·5	47	152·5	166	19·3	...	...	4	166	19·3
1903	,,	316	37·7	58	183·5	178	21·3	...	...	10	178	21·3
1904	,,	327	39·0	49	149·8	151	18·0	...	...	10	151	18·0
1905	,,	291	34·6	61	209·6	154	18·3	...	...	3	154	18·3
1906	,,	292	34·8	33	113·0	125	14·9	...	...	8	133	15·8
1907	,,	241	28·7	39	161·8	133	15·8	...	...	4	137	16·3
1908	,,	298	35·5	41	137·5	135	16·1	...	...	12	147	17·5
Averages for years 1899-1908	8504	300	35·1	49	164·7	156	18·3	...	...	7	158	18·6
1908	8380	302	36·03	49	162·2	141	16·8	...	...	11	152	18·13

* Rate in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

TABLE VII.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1909.

DISTRICT OF ASPULL.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole District.							
		At Ages—Years.						
	At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	Total cases removed to Hospital.
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	15	2	8	3	2	...	..	...
Erysipelas	7	...	1	...	...	6	...	...
Scarlet Fever	38	...	9	20	9	.	...	3
Enteric Fever	13	..	1	7	3	2	...	3
Puerperal Fever	3	...	...	...	2	1	...	..
Totals ...	76	2	19	30	16	9	...	6

Isolation Hospital—Name and Situation: Wigan Sanatorium.

Total available beds: 50.

Number of Diseases that can be concurrently treated: 4.

TABLE VIII.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1909.

DISTRICT OF ASPULL.

	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.
Measles	3	1	2	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	3	...	3	...	...	...	..
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	3	..	2	1	.	...	...
Croup	1	1	...	...	...	...	.
Epidemic Influenza	1	..	...	...	...	...	1
Diarrhœa	13	11	1	...	...	1	...
Enteritis	2	2	...	...		...	...
Gastritis	2	2	...	..	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	5	...	...	1	1	3	...
Other Tuberculous diseases	2	..	1	1	..	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease	5	..	...	...	...	3	2
Bronchitis	17	5	5	...	...	3	4
Pneumonia	26	11	3	...	3	7	2
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of liver	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Premature Birth	4	4	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases & Accidents of Parturition	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Heart Diseases	4	...	...	...	1	3	...
Accidents	3	...	1	1	...	1	...
Septic Diseases	2	...	1	...	...	1	..
All other causes	54	12	4	3	2	18	15
All causes...	152	49	23	7	8	41	24

TABLE IX.

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1909.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-2 months	2-3 months	3-4 months	4-5 months	5-6 months	6-7 months	7-8 months	8-9 months	9-10 months	10-11 months	11-12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
All Causes, Certified	7	2	3	...	12	3	7	4	4	5	3	1	1	4	2	2	48
„ Uncertified	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	..	1
Diarrhœa, all forms	...	...	...	...	...	..	3	3	1	2	...	...	...	1	1	..	11
Enteritis. Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2
Gastritas, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	..	...	1	...	...	...	2
Premature Birth	3	...	1	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Congenital Defects	5	1	1	...	7	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bronchitis	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	.	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	5
Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	..	...	2	2	...	2	...	...	1	...	1	1	2	11
Other Causes	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	2
Totals	8	2	3	...	13	3	7	4	4	5	3	1	1	4	2	2	49

Population (Estimated to middle of 1909), 8380.

Births in the year: Legitimate 289, Illegitimate 13.

Deaths in the year of: Legitimate infants 49 Illegitimate Infants, Nil.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 152.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1909, FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF ASPULL, on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Factories (including Factory Laundries)	2
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	34
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	2
Total	38

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Total number of Workshops on Register	26